

AMENDMENT NO. 1167

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendments so that I may call up my amendment No. 1167.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Colorado [Mr. BENNET], for himself, and Mr. CASEY, proposes an amendment numbered 1167.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the exclusion of combat pay from income for purposes of determining eligibility for child nutrition programs and the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children)

On page 4, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

**SEC. 103. MILITARY FAMILY NUTRITION PROTECTION.**

(a) CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS.—Section 9(b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(14) COMBAT PAY.—

“(A) DEFINITION OF COMBAT PAY.—In this paragraph, the term ‘combat pay’ means any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this paragraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

“(i) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

“(ii) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.

“(B) EXCLUSION.—Combat pay shall not be considered to be income for the purpose of determining the eligibility for free or reduced price meals of a child who is a member of the household of a member of the United States Armed Forces.”.

(b) SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN.—Section 17(d)(2) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) COMBAT PAY.—For the purpose of determining income eligibility under this section, a State agency shall exclude from income any additional payment under chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, or otherwise designated by the Secretary to be appropriate for exclusion under this subparagraph, that is received by or from a member of the United States Armed Forces deployed to a designated combat zone, if the additional pay—

“(i) is the result of deployment to or service in a combat zone; and

“(ii) was not received immediately prior to serving in a combat zone.”.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, my amendment ensures that active-duty soldiers do not lose family benefits, nutrition benefits that they have come to count on. It is wrong that a combat family would actually lose WIC benefits and child nutrition benefits just because the military loved one gets called up.

I thank my colleagues Senators JOHANNIS and CASEY for their support of this amendment. I appreciate the great

work of the chairman on this important piece of legislation.

I urge, at the appropriate time, adoption of the amendment.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1201 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1167

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 1201 to amendment No. 1167.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the amendment, add the following:

This section shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I certify that the information required by Senate rule XLIV, related to congressionally directed spending has been available on a publicly accessible congressional Web site in a searchable format at least 48 hours before a vote on the pending bill.

**MORNING BUSINESS**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent to proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL LIFESAVING AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the actions of the five young Americans who are this year's School Safety Patrol Lifesaving Award recipients as chosen by the American Automobile Association.

The American Automobile Association, AAA, began the School Safety Patrol Program in 1920 as a way to promote traffic safety amongst school children. Since 1949, the AAA School Safety Patrol Program has awarded its highest honor, the Lifesaving Award, to those patrolers who have acted to save the life of another. This year five heroic School Safety Patrolers are receiving this award, and it is my great honor to recognize their courageous actions.

In nearby Alexandria, VA, Norman Wallace was at his bus patrol post help-

ing to safely direct fellow Hybla Valley Elementary School students exit the bus when he spotted a vehicle coming towards a 5-year-old girl who was crossing in front of the bus. Acting quickly, Norman pulled the young girl from harm's way. His courageous actions ensured that the girl went unharmed.

Lulu Beltran showed great foresight while performing her duty as an AAA school safety patroller at Dixie Downs Elementary School in St. George, UT. While a fellow student was crossing the street, Lulu noticed that an approaching vehicle was not slowing down. After assessing the situation, Lulu moved swiftly and pulled her fellow student out of harm's way.

Working with her patrol advisor at Minnehaha Elementary School in Vancouver, WA, Sierra Clark acted bravely to prevent a fifth-grade girl from being hit when a vehicle suddenly sped around a corner. As the vehicle approached the crossing, Sierra snapped into action and pushed the girl out of danger.

Hunter Turner was patrolling a busy intersection near his Strassburg School in Sauk Village, IL, when a student began to cross the street without checking for cars first. As a car turned the corner, Hunter pulled the student back onto the sidewalk. If not for Hunter's valiant action, the student would have been struck.

After only 2 weeks at his school safety patrol post at Waterville Primary School in Waterville, OH, Matthew Krause prevented a kindergartener from stepping off a sidewalk just as a truck passed. Matthew's awareness of his surroundings and attentiveness to his duties ensured that this 5-year-old remained unscathed.

The five patrolers whom I have spoken of exemplify values such as courage, alertness, and a commitment to safety, all of which the AAA School Safety Patrol Program has promoted over the years. Patrolers throughout our Nation serve an important role in ensuring that our young people safely navigate traffic hazards to and from school, and I thank them for their work.

**CUBAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, today I rise on behalf of the people of Florida and all Americans, to recognize Cuban Independence Day. We stand in solidarity with the people of Cuba as they fight for democratic change and independence in their homeland, and struggle for a day when basic dignity and freedom of expression is possible without fear of persecution. Tyranny, dictatorships, and political repression have no place in this hemisphere. Now more than ever, the United States must continue to press the Cuban regime, beginning with freeing all political prisoners. We must never waiver in our support for the Cuban people, as they continue their

fight for freedom and self-determination.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I was unavoidably absent on the afternoon of May 19, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote 194, in favor of final passage of H.R. 627, the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009.

#### CONFIRMATION OF LARRY ECHO HAWK

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. I rise today to support the nomination of a man I am proud to call my friend—Larry Echo Hawk. He is President Obama's nominee to be Assistance Secretary of Indian Affairs. He was approved unanimously by this body last night. And he is a wonderful choice.

Before I talk about why Larry is so qualified for this position, I want to say a few quick words about how committed he is to this job.

Larry was a law professor. And as many of you know, that is a pretty nice job.

More importantly, as a former BYU quarterback, Larry was named to be the faculty member who oversees the BYU Athletics Department.

What I am saying is, rather than spending his days being worshipped by law students, publishing groundbreaking articles, and watching college football games from the 50-yard line, Larry has chosen to serve his country in the Interior Department. If that is not commitment, I don't know what is.

We are very lucky that Larry is so committed to this position because I can think of nobody who is better suited for it.

Larry's resume speaks for itself. He has the kind of depth and breadth of experience that would make him equal to any job. Over the course of his career, he has been an advocate and an academic—an elected official, a private attorney and a marine. He has worked to put criminals behind bars and to keep children in school. He has fought drug use, domestic violence, and bigotry. And throughout this broad and varied career, he has retained a passionate commitment to his people—the first Americans. As he moved from job to job and even State to State, he never stopped working to improve the lives of our country's Native Americans.

Larry's work has won him awards and acclaim from around the country and across the political spectrum. Just recently, a respected law professor suggested that Larry replace Justice Souter on the Supreme Court. This is a man who really could do anything.

And Larry is more than a very accomplished lawyer and public servant. He is a deep and innovative thinker.

Larry grew up in Farmington, NM, but I first got to know him when we were both elected state attorneys gen-

eral in 1990. At the time, Larry was the first Native American to be elected to a statewide constitutional office anywhere in the United States.

And Larry's path breaking did not stop there. Shortly after his election, he began to spread what, at the time, was a very new idea—conflicts with tribes should not be settled in court.

Back then, state AGs were in court with the tribes all the time. Nobody won those cases because the bad blood on both sides turned any outcome into a defeat.

Larry was the first to say, "We can do better." And he was right.

I followed Larry's advice, and as a result New Mexico's relationship with our tribes was more productive for everybody involved.

The author Dov Seidman has written that, "Laws tell you what you can do. Values inspire in you what you should do."

Larry knows the law well enough to understand what is possible. But, more importantly, he has the values to know when it is time to expand the realm of the possible—to break old habits and try new ideas. He is a leader who can bring change to a Bureau that desperately needs it.

At BIA, we need somebody who can work with tribal governments and tribal members with an attitude of respect. We need somebody who combines a deep knowledge of Indian issues with the compassion that comes from common experience and common culture. We need a great mind connected to a great heart.

In short, we need Larry Echo Hawk. I thank you all for supporting his nomination.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### CELEBRATING THE 100 YEAR BIRTHDAY OF POWELL, WYOMING

• Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, on May 25, 2009, we will celebrate the centennial of Powell, WY. Located in the valley of the Shoshone River, Powell is surrounded by the Absaroka and Big Horn mountain ranges, and is east of Yellowstone National Park.

One hundred years ago, the U.S. Reclamation Service offered for sale lots in a tract of land designated as the Powell Townsite. The sale began the last week in May 1909 and by June 30 of that year all lots in the square mile tract were purchased. The sale totaled \$16,750. While a thriving community was officially born May 25, 2009, the area had been occasionally populated for tens of thousands of years. Stone circles provide the archaeological and ethnohistorical evidence to show that the Shoshone and Crow had active family organizations, camp activities, and domestic life in the area.

Perhaps the first White man to view what would become Powell was Lewis and Clark's colleague, John Colter. During the winter of 1807, Colter made

the solitary trek from Fort Manuel Lisa to inform the Native Americans living near the Clark Fork River that a new trading post had been established. On his way back, he viewed the sagebrush flats along the Stinking Water River. Just a century later, the town of Powell would be born—and the river renamed Shoshone.

In 1906, the U.S. Reclamation Service established an engineering camp on the sagebrush flats and called it Camp Colter. Yet when the townsite was offered for sale, a new name was necessary since another location in the Big Horn Basin was also named for the Lewis and Clark explorer. The town's forefathers chose to honor Major John Wesley Powell, an early explorer, conservationist and reclamationist—and the former head of the U.S. Reclamation Service Geodetic Survey.

Powell is a terrific community. On the town's centennial blog, Cathy Howard Miller writes, "Powell—a small town where everyone knows you and you know them, a place to raise children, where you can feel safe." Cathy's words sum up the reason why Powell was elected as one of 10 All-America Cities in 1994. With a population of 5,381, its economy is based upon oil, irrigated farming, ranching, tourism, and agricultural support services. Home of the Powell High School Panthers and the Northwest College Trappers, Powell is a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Mr. President, I encourage my colleagues to join me in wishing Powell, WY, a happy birthday.●

##### TRIBUTE TO DR. MYLES BRAND

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today I recognize a constituent and a dear friend, Dr. Myles David Brand, a man of uncommon integrity and vision whose leadership has restored an ethos of scholastic achievement to collegiate athletics in America.

Dr. Brand took over as the fourth chief executive officer of the National Collegiate Athletics Association, NCAA, in January 2003, and the intervening years have been marked by an unyielding focus on reorienting the NCAA's priorities in ways aimed to nurture and support the student athlete.

Dr. Brand delivered a watershed speech in 2001 at the National Press Club, in which he enunciated the mission statement that would come to define his tenure leading the NCAA: "Academics must come first."

Dr. Brand warned against the "bleeding of the entertainment industry with intercollegiate athletics" and cautioned that falling academic performance "risks undermine the integrity of a system of higher education that is without question right now leading the world."

"Athletic success," he said, "cannot substitute for academic success. Universities must be seen, and understood, and judged by their achievements as